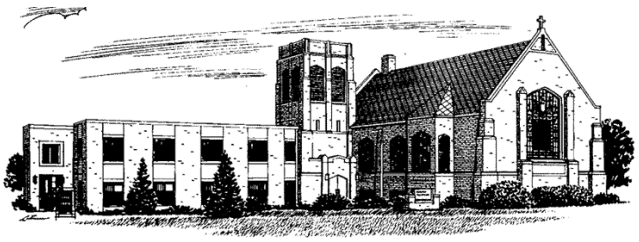


The Rev. Joan Oleson, Pastor
Home: 269-983-2475
Email: *oleson@saronlutheran.org*

Marcus Roll, Senior Choir Director,
Bell Choir Director
Email: roll1mc@gmail.com
Irma Gorman, Organist
Margaret Froehlich, Administrative Assistant
Nanci Fenrick, Financial Secretary
Email: nanci0126@yahoo.com
Emily Gaul, Child Care

Sundays at Saron:
Summers (thru Labor Day weekend):
9:30 Holy Communion
Childcare provided
No Learning Hour

During the School Year:
8:30 & 11:00 A.M. Worship
Childcare provided
9:40 Learning for Ages 2 – Adult

All are welcome!
We hold in prayer:
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,
Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, Bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA
The Rev. Whayne Hougland, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western MI

Our Companion Synods:
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea
Lutheran Church of Latvia

Saron's Mission:
Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!

SARON NEWSLETTER

Saron Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
510 Main Street
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
Phone: 269-983-1273
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

July 2018

I anticipate that next week's trip to Houston with two of our youth will be profound. Yes, there will be lots of walking, lots of heat, and hopefully lots of air conditioning. We will learn how to be together with 30,000 others from across the ELCA as well as the people of Houston and beyond. And, we will learn how to be Church together through worship, workshops, service, and learning opportunities. In our preparations we have explored lots of topics that I expect will come to even more life once we arrive in TX and continue as we return to Michigan. I'd like to give you an example. Under the theme "Gathering for Community" we learned about moving from charity (which is primarily about resources) to service learning, which is about relationships and systems. If you have opportunity, I invite you to listen to this moving TED talk: The Danger of a Single Story. https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story

Thank you for your support and prayers as we set out on this venture!

Back "at home" an inclusivity task force is being formed that will help Saron strengthen our mission of *"joyfully sharing God's love for all!!!"* If this of special interest to you, or to learn more, contact me!

Pastor Joan

SUMMER BEACH WORSHIP
Once again, Saron members and friends can take advantage of the beauty of Lake Michigan as a setting for informal summer worship. We will gather July 18, a Wednesday evening , at Lion's Park Beach for a picnic supper at 6:00 p.m., followed by worship at 7:00 p.m. Our worship this evening will include the reflections from those who went to Houston for the Youth Gathering. Ice cream sundaes will be served as a thank you for all your support. The church will provide hot dogs, brats, condiments, and lemonade. Others are invited to bring a dish to share. We are looking forward to seeing you there! Set aside Wednesday, August 15, for next month's gathering.

Caring and Sharing

In Our Prayers –
We remember in our thoughts and prayers: **Arla Huelsberg** is at the Whitcomb Tower Retirement Center, St. Joseph; **Lila Roethel** is at the Willows; **Bernice Koski** is at Woodland Terrace; **Virginia Anserello** is at Pine Ridge, Stevensville; and **Jean Pearson** is at Caretel, St. Joseph, MI

Serving in the military:
Andy Wedde – **California**
Sarah Deal Burrow – stateside

Office Hours at Saron
Margaret (secretary): Mon-Tues, 9 AM - 1 PM
Weds of Newsletter Week, 9 AM - 1 PM
Volunteers: Weds, 9:30 AM - 11 AM+
Nanci (financial secretary): Wednesday 2:15 p.m.
Pastor: most mornings, except Fridays
When Pastor is out of town, emergency pastoral care information can be obtained by calling the church office (983.1273) or contacting the president of the congregation.
Note: E-mails meant for Pastor should be addressed to *oleson@saronlutheran.org*. E-mails to Margaret and the church office should be addressed to *info@saronlutheran.org*.

Happy Birthday Wishes to Saron's Members in July 2018

July 3 - Ellie Hammer
4 – Andrew Huff
7 - Preston Akers
8 - Elliott de la Foret
9 – Barbara Stelter
11 - Thomas Freemire
12 - Scott Gaspari
14 - Kylie Hammer
17 - Andrew Gustafson
21 - Marge Teal
23 – Lauren (Olson) Kauffman
25 – John Koehler
26 – Pastor Joan Oleson
Robert Hopkins
28 - Helena Kepp
Jennifer Nicholas
29 – Ilo Coar

Happy Anniversary Wishes to Saron's Members In July 2018
July 3 – Adam and Shavonn Bradley
4 - Robert and Gloria Hopkins
12 – Rian and Judi Huff
14 – Gus Leoni and Wendy King
15 – James and Katherine Nadeau
22 – Keith and Jan Stevens
25 – Brent and Linda Dipert
26 – Nick and Kati (Huff) Hooper
- John and Candy Taylor

"God's Blessings for a very happy day and year round"

If there is anyone who has been omitted, or, if the dates are incorrect from the birthday and anniversary list, please call the church office at 983-1273. Thank you.

INVITATION
Former member Katie Hebner and her fiancé Michael Lewis invite Saron congregation to their marriage service at Saron on September 1, 2018 at 2:00 pm. Information about the service, reception and RSVP are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex or could be obtained through the church office. Replies desired by July 30.

ADDRESS UPDATES NEEDED
We are working on updating our records so that a non-pictorial directory can be printed in the coming months. If you have a change of address, or a new phone number, please let us know.

CONGRATULATIONS!
Congratulations to Scott and Kate Kohs upon the birth of Charles James Kohs on Tuesday, June 12. Welcome, Charlie!

Worship

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS
As you prepare for worship, you are invited to read and reflect on the Scriptures for the day.

Sun. July 1 —
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Lamentations 3:22-33 24
Psalm 30
2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Mark 5:21-43

Sun. July 8—
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Ezekiel 2:1-5
Psalm 123
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13

Sun. July 15 —
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Amos 7:7-15
Psalm 85:8-13
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29

Sun. July 22 —
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Psalm 23
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Sun. July 29 —
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
2 Kings 4:42-44
Psalm 145:10-18
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21

WORSHIP BULLETINS
If you are interested in using a bulletin with no staples, please ask an usher. There are copies available.

NURSERY NEWS
Whether you can serve two or twelve times a year, we welcome volunteers. We will work with your schedule if you are only available certain months or other restrictions. Join our group that lets parents enjoy worship without distraction, knowing their children are safely playing close by.

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS!
We would love to have special music for worship throughout the summer season. This could be anything from a flute solo, singing an old classic, or a kazoo solo of your favorite hymn tune! If you would like help preparing your music or help picking out something to play or sing, don't hesitate to ask Irma or Marcus for assistance. We would love to hear from musicians of all experience levels, don't be shy!

Saron Bell Choir is in need of a few more enthusiastic ringers. Although a basis of music reading is helpful, it is not required. Currently we have 3 positions open in the bell choir, Scott Gaspari graciously covers two positions, Marcus usually ends up playing 1 and we are still 1 ringer down, so we could use more hands! If you would like to learn more about bells, ask Marcus or any of the other bell choir members to show you the ropes. We are planning on starting out next year with simple music so we can all get back to the basics and brush up on technique, so it is the perfect time to join!

PRAYER GROUP
Join us on Mondays at 11:00 a.m. for a time of quiet reflection and prayer, which includes lifting up the requests offered on Sundays at worship. We meet in the sanctuary.

Learning
book *of* faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.
Saron is a congregation seeking to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The Learning Committee is in need of volunteers for VBS, scheduled Aug 6, 7, 8, 9 (approx 6:30pm to 8:30pm). Volunteers will serve snacks, read books, help with crafts, and shuffle children to destinations. If you can help (for even just one evening), please contact Kristen Harper.

THE EPHESUS GROUP
Watch for details in the bulletin.

BEACH STUDY
Join us at Lions Park Beach for Bible study at 8:30 am on Tuesdays. Wear your jacket, bring a cup of coffee (if desired), and we will study the Scripture for the following Sunday and join in prayer. The conversation usually lasts 45 min to an hour.

MEN'S MONTHLY DEVOTION
Men's monthly Bible Devotions and Breakfast
There will be **NO** Men's Bible Devotions/Breakfast during the summer months, we will resume again in October.

Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study

Saron's Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study meets at 6:00pm at the church. At 7:00pm we adjourn for a time of fellowship (something to eat and something to drink). We know everyone is busy so Bible study is a "come as you can" group. All men are invited to join in. During July, we are continuing our study of Exodus.

For more information contact Sid Mohn at 312-209-1301 or sidmohn@gmail.com

"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" (Proverbs 27:17).

1ST SUNDAY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

We are taking a break for the summer. Here are the books we have chosen for our next session, beginning in October, in case you want to get a head start on some good summer reading.

October 7, 2018 "Little Fires Everywhere" by Celeste Ng

February 10, 2019 "40 Autumns" by Nina Willner

November 4, 2018 "Magpie Murders" by Anthony Horwitz

March 3, 2019 "Then She Found Me" by Elinor Lipman

December 2, 2018 "Sister Carrie" by Theodore Dreiser

April 7, 2018 " Young Jane Young" by Gabrielle Zevin

May 5, 2019 "Abide With Me" by Elizabeth Strout

"Books are the plane, and the train, and the road. They are the destination, and the journey. They are home." (Anna Quindlen)

Youth

HOUSTON BOUND

Two of our youth, Meredith Gacek and Jenna Henderson, as well as Pr Joan and Laurel Gacek are heading to Houston June 26 for the National Youth Gathering. The theme for this event is "This Changes Everything." The primary Scripture is Ephesians 2:8 "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God." We look forward to sharing our experience with you. Please keep the entire gathering in your prayers.

FUNDRAISER THANK YOU

Thank you for your generous support! Join us at the beach worship on July 18 to hear about our trip and enjoy an ice cream sundae after the potluck!

GRADUATES

Congratulations to our graduates ! In addition in those listed in our June newsletter, we also congratulate **Drew Huff**. Drew recently graduated from Oakland University.

Hospitality

Sign Up for Refreshments

Please consider signing up for refreshments to be served after worship on Sundays. There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board.

Outreach

"Joyfully Sharing God's Love For All." Yes, that is what Saron does every day.

God's Work Our Hands Sunday. Please set aside this date and watch for details.

Date: Sept. 9th. 2018

This coming school year 2018-19

We will be collecting school supplies for Eau Claire Lybrook Elementary School.

FACEBOOK

We love to share pictures of Saron's ministry on our Facebook page and we get great feedback. It is our practice not to put names with the pictures. If you prefer your own or your family member's picture not to be posted, please let us know, so that we can honor that request

Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen

Last month Saron Lutheran helpers served 119 people. Our Soup Kitchen Cookie Bakers were:

Pam Olson
Mary Alice Brunner
Marilyn Frey
Kathy Cowall
Colleen Lundgren
Amanda Bradley and her daughters
Wendy King
Kris Weber

(We are still in need of large cans of fruit.)

Meet Me at the Freezer

We will need a volunteer to be in charge of organizing "Meet Me at the Freezer" project. If you have interest, contact Jan Stevens or Amy Nelson

Thanks for all your help,
Jan Stevens

MICHIGAN BLOOD DRIVE

Our blood drive is soon – Monday, July 9, from 2 – 6 pm. Sign-up sheets are up for donating, bringing snacks, or providing aftercare. If donating blood, bring a picture I.D. Blood facts: the average adult body contains 10 pints of blood; one unit of donated whole blood = (roughly) one pint. Many US blood banks often run short of type O and B red blood cells. Of the general population 38% are O+, 34% are A+, 9% are B+, 7% are O-, 6% are A-, 3% are AB+, 2% are B-, 1% are AB-. Any questions, contact Keith Stevens or Marilyn Lucy or look at MIBLOOD.ORG

INTERFAITH ACTION – SUMMER SERIES

INTERFAITH ACTION's (Southwest Michigan's peace and justice collaborative in which Saron participates) will hold its 3rd interfaith summer educational program on: July 25th, 6:00 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. - pizza will be served for those arriving by 6 p.m. Hosted by Zion St. Joseph United Church of Christ 3001 Veronica Dr. St. Joseph, MI 49085

The program will include: a one-half hour panel discussion on Jewish, Christian and Muslim faith concepts related to peace and justice - and a one-half hour open forum on what contemporary issues are likely priorities for Interfaith Action.
All are invited to this exciting discussion.

Our Synod's Global Partnerships - Focus on Honduras

Our Synod will be sending a delegation to Honduras on Sept 6-12. The focus of the trip will be to evaluate the Lutheran Church of Honduras' Health for Life project and to begin planning for the next phase of the project which will focus on HIV care and inclusion. Persons interested in joining the delegation (or in learning more about the initiative) should contact Sid Mohn. Spanish language competency is not needed.

Pray for the Hondurans in the US who are fearful as to their future with the ending of Temporary Protective Status.

Pray for the Honduran women and children who are fleeing the violence in their country to find safety in North America.

Pray for the Lutheran Church in Honduras and its powerful witness and work amidst difficult circumstances.

CROP WALK

Saron raised a total of $1,060.50 for the Blossomland Crop Walk on May 20th. Thanks to all who participated in any way!

Women of the ELCA

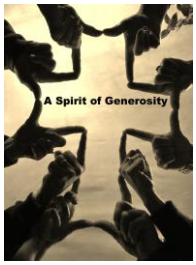
DEBORAH CIRCLE

Deborah Circle will gather on Wednesday, July 11, 2018, for dinner at 6:00 p.m. at the Lakehouse Restaurant.

Support

A Special Message for travelers and those who prefer electronic giving - Saron offers the option to give electronically for your convenience. Please contact the church office if you have any questions or to enroll. Thanks.

STEWARDSHIP



….with glad and generous hearts, praising God …. Acts 2:46

I always enjoy worship services during the summer months. I like the change to one service each Sunday, singing new music, and worship and Bible Study at the beach. If you haven't joined one of the Wednesday evening beach services before, hopefully you'll make a point of joining one of those three evening services this summer. Each includes a potluck first then a short worship afterwards while enjoying the beauty of the beach and Lake Michigan. Beach Bible study each Tuesday morning is always thought provoking as well as we read and discuss the Gospel lesson from three different translations or paraphrases. As we move through the summer months, hopefully Saron's services will touch a new chord of appreciation of all our talented and hard working staff and parishioners. May we joyfully and generously share God's word and mission with all. **God's Work. Our Hands.**

STOCK DONATIONS

Saron partners with TD Ameritrade, a brokerage firm, to accept stock donations. If you would like to donate stock, e-mail Matt Bradley and Nanci Fenrick to receive the account number for which the shares will be transferred to. Once the transaction has been completed, e-mail Matt Bradley and Nanci Fenrick the name of the stock, the number of shares, and the date of the transfer. This allows the transaction to be completed and ensures it is included on your giving statement.

Thanks! Matt Bradley, treasurer

Facilities

HELP NEEDED AFTER WORSHIP

Please consider helping out once every other month with the important job of securing our building after the last service of the day. The job would be to lock all the outer doors, turn off lights and check a few areas in the building. It does not take long and usually you only are assigned once every other month if we have enough help. This is a job that needs to be done and we cannot expect our Pastor to have that responsibility. If you can help or you would like to find out more about the job please contact Janet or Bill Oleson.

BATHROOM PROJECT

Whether or not you are a Saron bathroom user, check out the restroom updates. The older bathrooms have been painted and all 4 rooms have new pictures and/or mirrors. Thanks to those who worked on the project – Judi Huff, Dave and Kathie Bradley, Brad Frey, and Karen Johnson. Funds for a part of this project came from THRIVENT FINANCIAL as a grant to help our building become more hospitable and welcoming. If you are a THRIVENT member, let Pastor or the church office know. As a member, you may be able to help out with future projects.

GOLDEN HAMMERS NEED HELP!

Golden Hammers is a group of volunteers that meets every Wednesday from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the church. They are women and men that gather to do various jobs in and outside of the church that help keep Saron looking good and also saves the church a considerable amount of money. Work includes folding bulletins, preparing the monthly newsletter for mailing, preparing the sanctuary for Sunday service, minor maintenance and some light cleaning/vacuuming. We really need some additional helpers, both men and women. It is a good fellowship opportunity as well as helping to maintain God's house. Please consider helping and if you have any questions talk to Bill Oleson or Pastor Joan.

LAWN MOWERS NEEDED

Lawn mowers needed for the summer. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Volunteers to mow the yards instead of hiring that work out saved the church an estimated **$1,100.00** in expenses last year. Please sign up to help the church save money on the lawn mowing and keep our grounds looking good. The church has its own lawn mower. There is a sigh-up sheet in the Narthex. If you have any questions please see or notify Bill Oleson.

Thank you to Don and Carol Hafer for donating the new lawnmower!

USED INK CARTRIGES NEEDED

Please save your used ink cartridges as it saves the church money in office supplies. There is a collection box in the Narthex

Council News

Attendance Record	
05/27/2018	61
06/03/2018	103
06/10/2018	82
06/17/2018	72

Saron's Council Members – 2018

Karen Hinckley (326-0688) – President
Judi Huff (473-5075) – Vice President
Matt Bradley (419-306-5780) – Treasurer
Karen Johnson (269-983-2800) – Secretary
+++
Tyler Cook (429-5550) – Worship
Brad Frey (921-8618) – Facilities
Scott Gaspari (847-373-8825) – Youth
Nolan Becker (269-558-3252) – Youth
Don Hafer (269-470-2255) - Support
Karen Johnson (269-983-2800) – Hospitality
Judy Huff (473-5075) - Hospitality
Kristen Harper (277-9277) – Learning
Amy Nelson (920-227-5354) – Outreach
Joan Oleson (983-1273) office;
983-2475 home) – Pastor

SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPORT

The North/West Lower Michigan Synod Assembly was held May 20-22, 2018, in Lansing. Members from Saron who attended were Pastor Joan Oleson (rostered leader & synod council member,) Connor Ashley (member, synod council member, & parliamentarian for proceedings,) Eric Standen (member/congregational voting member,) and Betsy Becker (member/congregational voting member.)

Opening worship was led by Bishop Craig Satterlee, with guest preacher Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. During plenary sessions over the next 2 days, several new synod council members were elected, synod voting members to the 2019 churchwide assembly were elected, a resolution to end term limits for vice president and secretary of synod council was passed, a resolution statement on the memorial of the ELCA's 50th anniversary of the ordination of women was passed, a resolution statement on gun violence & assault weapons was passed, and a resolution statement on environmental stewardship was passed.

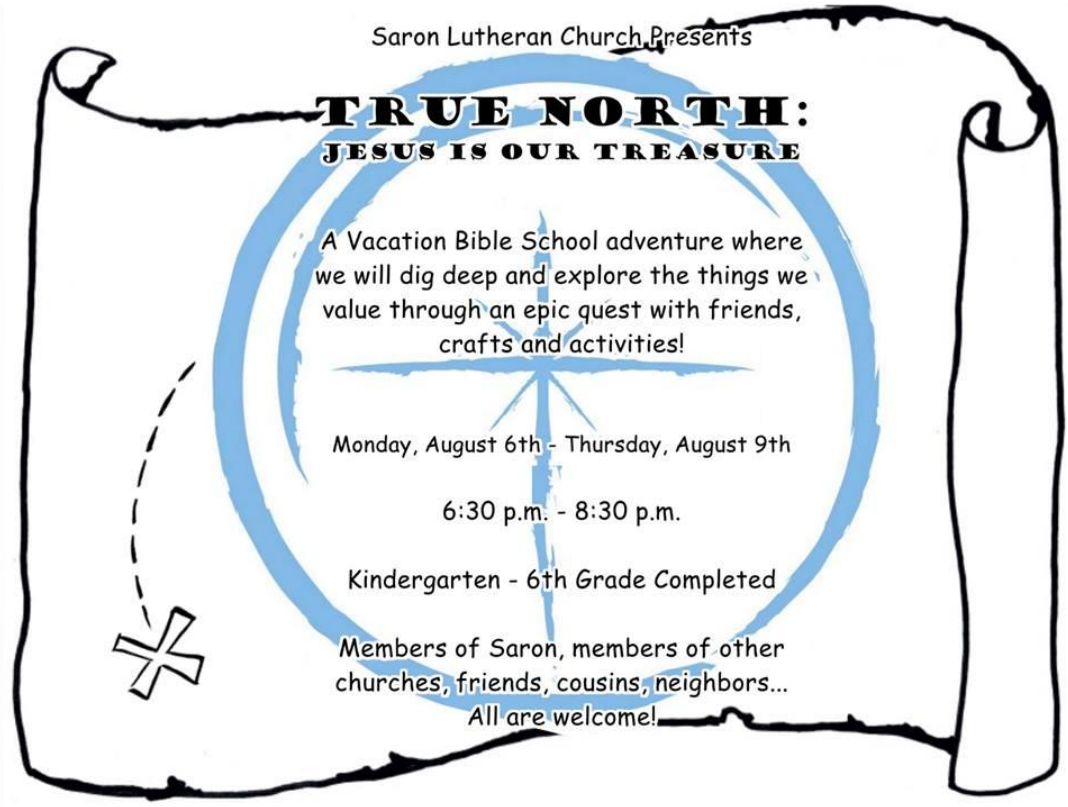
Additional activities included presentations and receiving of the vice president's report, the bishop's report, and the treasurer's report as well as discussion and adoption of the 2019 budget and compensation guidelines. Closing services featured Bishop Eaton presiding with Bishop Satterlee preaching.
Submitted by Betsy Becker

SARON EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 MAIN STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email:info@saronlutheran.org

A Congregation of:
The North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

July 2018


Saron Lutheran Church Presents
TRUE NORTH:
JESUS IS OUR TREASURE
A Vacation Bible School adventure where we will dig deep and explore the things we value through an epic quest with friends, crafts and activities!
Monday, August 6th - Thursday, August 9th
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Kindergarten - 6th Grade Completed
Members of Saron, members of other churches, friends, cousins, neighbors...
All are welcome!

Saron
July Volunteer Schedule

	July 1 ***Sixth Sunday after Pentecost***	**July 8** ***Seventh Sunday after Pentecost***	**July 15** ***Eighth Sunday of Pentecost***	**July 22** ***Ninth Sunday of Pentecost***	**July 29** ***Tenth Sunday of Pentecost***
	9:30	**9:30**	**9:30**	**9:30**	**9:30**
Assisting minister	Denise Cook	Dennis Lundgren	Colleen Lundgren	Eric Standen	Connie Slater
Reader/ Intinction	Sally Schmuhl	Savannah Talbert and Wendy King	Hailey Talbert and Krin Jurgensen	Marilyn Frey	Bill Oleson
Ushers	John Olson and Walt Schmuhl	Krin Jurgensen, Hailey & Savannah Talbert	Pat Breyen and Rebecca Sebrechts	Peter and Karen Johnson	Steve Bell and Jim Manore
Acolytes	Molly Becker	Brooke Henderson	Troy Burrow	Mia Bradley	Meredith Gacek
Nursery Assistant	Fran Richards	Frieda Williams	Janet Larson	Molly Becker	Karen Hinckley
Bldg. close	Bob Hopkins	Dave and Kathie Bradley	Dennis and Colleen Lundgren	Bob and Mary Kynast	Brad and Marilyn Frey
Snacks					
Flowers	Don and Carol Hafer	Karen & Peter Johnson	Tom Palmer	Jan and Keith Stevens	OPEN
Mowing	Weekend of June 30 Jim Manore	Weekend of July 6 Bob Deaton	Weekend of July 13	Weekend of July 20	Weekend of July 27

July 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Youth return for Houston Worship at 9:30am with Communion by Intinction Children's Message	**2** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	**3** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**4** Office closed Independence Day	**5**	**6**	**7**
8 Worship at 9:30am. with Communion by Intinction/ Children's Message	**9** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group Newsletter articles due	**10** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Support Committee	**11** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers 6:00 p.m. Deborah Circle dinner at the Lakehouse Restaurant	**12**	**13**	**14**
15 Worship at 9:30am with Communion by Intinction/ Children's Message	**16** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting	**17** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Vasa 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**18** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers 6:00 p.m .Picnic at Lions Beach 7:00 p.m. Worship	**19**	**20**	**21**
22 Worship at 9:30 a.m. with Communion by Intinction/ Children's Message	**23** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	**24** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions Park 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**25** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers 6:00 p.m Interfaith Action	**26**	**27**	**28**
29 Worship at 9:30 a.m. with Communion by Intinction/Children's Message	**30** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	**31** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study				